

Daily Digest

Senate

Chamber Action

Routine Proceedings, pages S581–S617

Measures Introduced: Twenty bills and two resolutions were introduced, as follows: S. 3604–3623, and S. Res. 508–509. **Pages S612–613**

Measures Reported:

Special Report entitled “National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2019”. (S. Rept. No. 117–69)

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Measures Passed:

Honoring the Victims of the Attack at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School: Senate agreed to S. Res. 508, honoring the memories of the victims of the senseless attack at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School on February 14, 2018. **Pages S597–98**

Ending Forced Arbitration of Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Act—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that notwithstanding Rule XXII, at approximately 10 a.m., on Thursday, February 10, 2022, Senate begin consideration of H.R. 4445, to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration of disputes involving sexual assault and sexual harassment; that the time until 11 a.m., be equally divided between the two Leaders, or their designees; and that at 11 a.m., Senate vote on passage of the bill, with no intervening action or debate. **Page S609**

Motion to Discharge Bagenstos Nomination: By 48 yeas to 47 nays (Vote No. EX. 51), Senate agreed to the motion to discharge the nomination of Samuel R. Bagenstos, of Michigan, to be General Counsel of the Department of Health and Human Services, from the Committee on Finance. Subsequently, the nomination was placed on the Executive Calendar pursuant to the provisions of S. Res. 27, relative to Senate procedure in the 117th Congress. **Page S609**

Vekich Nomination—Agreement: A unanimous-consent agreement was reached providing that upon disposition of H.R. 4445, to amend title 9 of the United States Code with respect to arbitration of disputes involving sexual assault and sexual harassment, Senate proceed to Executive Session and re-

sume consideration of the nomination of Max Vekich, of Washington, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner, and at 11:45 a.m., on Thursday, February 10, 2022, Senate vote on the motion to invoke cloture thereon, and if cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate vote on confirmation on the nomination at 1:45 p.m. **Page S609**

Nominations Confirmed: Senate confirmed the following nominations:

By 72 yeas to 24 nays (Vote No. EX. 43), Scott A. Nathan, of Massachusetts, to be Chief Executive Officer of the United States International Development Finance Corporation. **Page S587**

By 93 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 45), Douglas R. Bush, of Virginia, to be an Assistant Secretary of the Army. **Pages S581–87, S587–94**

During consideration of this nomination today, Senate also took the following action:

By 95 yeas to 2 nays (Vote No. EX. 44), Senate agreed to the motion to close further debate on the nomination. **Page S587**

By 79 yeas to 17 nays (Vote No. EX. 46), John Patrick Coffey, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Navy. **Page S594**

By 75 yeas to 21 nays (Vote No. EX. 47), Alexandra Baker, of New Jersey, to be a Deputy Under Secretary of Defense. **Page S608**

By 56 yeas to 40 nays (Vote No. EX. 48), Reta Jo Lewis, of Georgia, to be President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States for a term expiring January 20, 2025. **Page S608**

By 61 yeas to 35 nays (Vote No. EX. 49), Leonard Philip Stark, of Delaware, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Federal Circuit. **Pages S608–09**

By 61 yeas to 33 nays (Vote No. EX. 50), Neil Harvey MacBride, of Virginia, to be General Counsel for the Department of the Treasury.

Pages S596–97, S598–S607, S609

Nomination Discharged: The following nomination were discharged from further committee consideration and placed on the Executive Calendar:

Samuel R. Bagenstos, of Michigan, to be General Counsel of the Department of Health and Human

Services, which was sent to the Senate on August 10, 2021, from the Senate Committee on Finance.

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Messages from the House: Pages S611–12

Measures Referred: Page S612

Measures Placed on the Calendar: Pages S581, S612

Measures Read the First Time: Page S612

Executive Reports of Committees: Page S612

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Statements on Introduced Bills/Resolutions: Pages S613–16

Additional Statements: Pages S610–11

Authorities for Committees to Meet: Page S616

Privileges of the Floor: Page S616

Record Votes: Nine record votes were taken today. (Total—51) Pages S587, S593–94, S608–09

Adjournment: Senate convened at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 7:56 p.m., until 10 a.m. on Thursday, February 10, 2022. (For Senate's program, see the remarks of the Majority Leader in today's Record on page S616.)

Committee Meetings

(Committees not listed did not meet)

DIGITAL ASSETS

Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry: Committee concluded a hearing to examine digital assets, focusing on risks, regulation, and innovation, after receiving testimony from Rostin Behnam, Chairman, Commodity Futures Trading Commission; Sandra Ro, Global Blockchain Business Council, and Perianne Boring, Chamber of Digital Commerce, both of Washington, D.C.; Sam Bankman-Fried, FTX, Chicago, Illinois; and Kevin Werbach, University of Pennsylvania Wharton School, Philadelphia.

SUPPORTING COMMUNITIES

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: Subcommittee on Financial Institutions and Consumer Protection concluded a hearing to examine the role that community development financial institutions and minority depository institutions serve in supporting communities, including S. 1368, to make housing more affordable, after receiving testimony from Robert James II, National Bankers Association, Savannah, Georgia; Jeanne Kucey, JetStream Federal Credit Union, Miami Lakes, Florida, on behalf of the National Association of Federally-Insured Credit Unions; and Joel Griffith, The Heritage Foundation, Washington, D.C.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on the Budget: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Shalanda D. Young, of Louisiana, to be Director, and Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Deputy Director, both of the Office of Management and Budget.

NOMINATION

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nomination of Gigi B. Sohn, of the District of Columbia, to be a Member of the Federal Communications Commission, after the nominee testified and answered questions in her own behalf.

NASA

Committee on Commerce: Subcommittee on Space and Science concluded a hearing to examine NASA accountability and oversight, after receiving testimony from James Free, Associate Administrator, Exploration Systems Development Mission Directorate, James Reuter, Associate Administrator, Space Technology Mission Directorate, Thomas Zurbuchen, Associate Administrator, Science Mission Directorate, all of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration; W. William Russell, Director, Contracting and National Security Acquisitions, Government Accountability Office; and Scott Pace, George Washington University Space Policy Institute, Washington, D.C.

GREAT AMERICAN OUTDOORS ACT

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks concluded a hearing to examine the implementation of the Great American Outdoors Act, after receiving testimony from Shannon A. Estenoz, Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish and Wildlife and Parks; and Christopher French, Deputy Chief, National Forest System, Forest Service, Department of Agriculture.

NUCLEAR ENERGY LEGISLATION

Committee on Environment and Public Works: Committee concluded a hearing to examine S. 2373, to reestablish United States global leadership in nuclear energy, revitalize domestic nuclear energy supply chain infrastructure, support the licensing of advanced nuclear technologies, and improve the regulation of nuclear energy, and S. 1290, to assist communities affected by stranded nuclear waste, after receiving testimony from David A. Knabel, City of Zion, Zion, Illinois; Armond Cohen, Clean Air Task Force, Boston, Massachusetts; and Maria Korsnick, Nuclear Energy Institute, and Jeremy Harrell, ClearPath Action, on behalf of the U.S. Nuclear Industry Council, both of Washington, D.C.

NOMINATIONS

Committee on Finance: Committee concluded a hearing to examine the nominations of Robert Michael Gordon, of the District of Columbia, to be an Assistant Secretary, January Contreras, of Arizona, to be Assistant Secretary for Family Support, and Rebecca E. Jones Gaston, of Oregon, to be Commissioner on Children, Youth, and Families, all of the Department of Health and Human Services, after the nominees testified and answered questions in their own behalf.

IRAN

Committee on Foreign Relations: Committee received a closed briefing on Iran, focusing on an update on Vienna discussions, from Robert Malley, Special Envoy for Iran, Department of State; Brett H. McGurk, Deputy Assistant to the President and Middle East and North Africa Coordinator, National Security Council; and a briefer from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

AFGHANISTAN

Committee on Foreign Relations: Subcommittee on Near East, South Asia, Central Asia, and Counterterrorism concluded a hearing to examine Afghanistan, focusing on the humanitarian crisis and U.S. response, after receiving testimony from David Miliband, International Rescue Committee, New York, New York; and Graeme Smith, International Crisis Group, Brussels, Belgium.

BUSINESS MEETING

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: Committee ordered favorably reported the nominations of Shalanda D. Young, of Louisiana, to be Director, and Nani A. Coloretti, of California, to be Deputy Director, both of the Office of Management and Budget, and Dimitri Kusnezov, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Science and Technology, Department of Homeland Security.

DRONE STRIKES

Committee on the Judiciary: Committee concluded a hearing to examine “targeted killing” and the rule of law, focusing on the legal and human costs of 20 years of United States drone strikes, after receiving testimony from General John P. Jumper (Ret.), former Chief of Staff of the Air Force, Department of Defense; Hina Shamsi, American Civil Liberties Union, New York, New York; Radhya al-Mutawakel, Mwatana for Human Rights, Sana’a, Yemen; and Stephen Pomper, International Crisis Group, and Nathan A. Sales, Fillmore Global Strategies LLC, both of Washington, D.C.

INTELLIGENCE

Select Committee on Intelligence: Committee met in closed session to receive a briefing on certain intelligence matters from officials of the intelligence community.

House of Representatives

Chamber Action

Public Bills and Resolutions Introduced: 10 public bills, H.R. 6653–6702; and 10 resolutions, H. Res. 915–924 were introduced. **Pages H1111–14**

Additional Cosponsors: **Page H1116**

Reports Filed: There were no reports filed today.

Speaker: Read a letter from the Speaker wherein she appointed Representative Torres (NY) to act as Speaker pro tempore for today. **Page H1077**

Global Respect Act: The House passed H.R. 3485, to impose sanctions on foreign persons responsible for violations of internationally recognized human rights against lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and intersex (LGBTQI) individuals, by a yeas-and-nays vote of 227 yeas to 206 nays, Roll No. 43.

Pages H1079–87

Pursuant to the Rule, an amendment in the nature of a substitute consisting of the text of Rules Committee Print 117–30 shall be considered as adopted, in lieu of the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on Foreign Affairs now printed in the bill. **Pages H1079–80**

Agreed to:

Cicilline en bloc amendment No. 1 consisting of the following amendments printed in part A of H. Rept. 117–241: Crist (No. 1) that authorizes the President to exempt certain immediate family members who themselves face persecution from possible inadmissibility or revocation of visas; Gottheimer (No. 2) that requires a study from the Secretary of State examining risks to LGBTQI individuals at a regional bureau level; Harder (No. 3) that prevents any provisions of the bill from imposing sanctions or taking actions against any foreign individual based

solely upon religious belief; Manning (No. 4) that adds torture to the list of violations of human rights for which the President may impose sanctions; Porter (No. 5) that requires a report to Congress on individuals responsible for violations of human rights against LGBTQI people be submitted in an unclassified form and published on a publicly available State Department website, and the report may include a classified annex; and Williams (No. 6) that commissions a report on how the Department of State can coordinate internationally to proactively prevent human rights violations against individuals based on actual or perceived sexual orientation, gender identity, or sex characteristics (by a yea-and-nay vote of 223 yeas to 207 nays, Roll No. 42). **Pages H1084–86**

H. Res. 900, the rule providing for consideration of the bills (H.R. 3485), (H.R. 4445), and (H.R. 4521) was agreed to Wednesday, February 2nd.

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House agreed to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Tuesday, February 1st.

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 223 West Chalan Santo Papa in Hagatna, Guam, as the “Atanasio Taitano Perez Post Office”: H.R. 3539, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 223 West Chalan Santo Papa in Hagatna, Guam, as the “Atanasio Taitano Perez Post Office”, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 417 yeas to 1 nay with two answering “present”, Roll No. 44.

Pages H1087–88

Suspension—Proceedings Resumed: The House failed to agree to suspend the rules and pass the following measure. Consideration began Tuesday, February 1st.

Designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 4th Street in Petaluma, California, as the “Lynn C. Woolsey Post Office Building”: H.R. 2842, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 120 4th Street in Petaluma, California, as the “Lynn C. Woolsey Post Office Building”, by a $\frac{2}{3}$ yea-and-nay vote of 245 yeas to 167 nays with one answering “present”, Roll No. 45.

Pages H1088–89

Call of the Private Calendar: Agreed by unanimous consent that the call of the Private Calendar be dispensed with on Tuesday, March 1, 2022. **Page H1111**

Quorum Calls—Votes: Four yea-and-nay votes developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H1086, H1087, H1087–88, and H1088–89.

Adjournment: The House met at 9 a.m. and adjourned at 3:39 p.m.

Committee Meetings

MISCELLANEOUS MEASURES

Committee on Foreign Affairs: Full Committee concluded a markup on H. Res. 896, the “Condemning the Burmese military for perpetrating gross violations of human rights as part of its brutal campaign to suppress the democratic aspirations of the people of Burma, a year after the coup d’état on February 1, 2021”; H.R. 4821, the “Combating the Persecution of Christians in China Act”; H.R. 6600, the “Ethiopia Stabilization, Peace, and Democracy Act”; H. Res. 892, calling on the Government of the Republic of Rwanda to release Paul Rusesabagina on humanitarian grounds; H. Res. 895, strongly condemning the abuses committed in Cameroon’s Anglophone regions by the Government of Cameroon security forces and armed group; H. Res. 907, reaffirming our commitment to support progress toward transparency, accountable institutions, and other tenets of good governance in the Republic of Liberia as it approaches the Bicentennial of the Arrival of the First Free Black Americans to Providence Island, Liberia; and H.R. 6552, the “Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2022”. H.R. 6600, H.R. 4821, and H. Res. 895 were ordered reported, as amended. H. Res. 892, H. Res. 907, H.R. 6552, and H. Res. 896 were ordered reported, without amendment.

REVITALIZING WMATA: GETTING TO A CULTURE OF EXCELLENCE

Committee on Oversight and Reform: Subcommittee on Government Operations, hearing entitled “Revitalizing WMATA: Getting to a Culture of Excellence”. Testimony was heard from Geoffrey Cherrington, Inspector General, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; David L. Mayer, Chief Executive Officer, Washington Metrorail Safety Commission; Paul C. Seder, Board Chair, Board of Directors, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; Paul J. Wiedefeld, General Manager, Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority; and a public witness.

IT INFRASTRUCTURE MODERNIZATION: ADDRESSING ONGOING CHALLENGES AND THE PATH FORWARD

Committee on Veterans’ Affairs: Subcommittee on Technology Modernization; and Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations, joint hearing entitled “IT Infrastructure Modernization: Addressing Ongoing Challenges and the Path Forward”. Testimony was

heard from Kurt DelBene, Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology and Chief Information Officer, Department of Veterans Affairs.

CONNECTING AMERICANS TO PROSPERITY: HOW INFRASTRUCTURE CAN BOLSTER INCLUSIVE ECONOMIC GROWTH

Select Committee on Economic Disparity and Fairness in Growth: Full Committee, hearing entitled “Connecting Americans to Prosperity: How Infrastructure can Bolster Inclusive Economic Growth”. Testimony was heard from Eileen Higgins, Commissioner, District 5, Miami-Dade County, Florida; and public witnesses.

Joint Meetings

BUILDING A BETTER LABOR MARKET

Joint Economic Committee: Committee concluded a hearing to examine building a better labor market, focusing on empowering older workers for a stronger economy, after receiving testimony from Teresa Ghilarducci, The New School for Social Research, New York, New York; and Monique Morrissey, Economic Policy Institute, Jocelyn Frye, National Partnership for Women and Families, and Andrew G. Biggs, American Enterprise Institute, all of Washington, D.C.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2022

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs: to hold hearings to examine how institutional landlords are changing the housing market, 10 a.m., SD-538.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources: to hold hearings to examine the opportunities and challenges in using clean hydrogen in the transportation, utility, industrial, commercial, and residential sectors, 10 a.m., SD-366.

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions: business meeting to consider the nominations of Glenna Lauren Wright-Gallo, of Nevada, to be Assistant Secretary for Special Education and Rehabilitative Services, Department of Education, Christopher John Williamson, of West Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary of Labor for Mine Safety and Health, Mary Lucille Jordan, of Maryland, and Timothy Baker, of Virginia, both to be a Member of the Federal Mine Safety and Health Review Commission, and other pending calendar business, Time to be announced, Room to be announced.

Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety, to hold hearings to examine the health care workforce shortage, focusing on recruiting, revitalizing and diversifying, 10 a.m., SD-430.

Committee on the Judiciary: business meeting to consider S. 3538, to establish a National Commission on Online Child Sexual Exploitation Prevention, S. 3103, to amend title 18, United States Code, to eliminate the statute of limitations for the filing of a civil claim for any person who, while a minor, was a victim of a violation of section 1589, 1590, 1591, 2241(c), 2242, 2243, 2251, 2251A, 2252, 2252A, 2260, 2421, 2422, or 2423 of such title, and the nominations of Andre B. Mathis, of Tennessee, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Sixth Circuit, Jessica G. L. Clarke, to be United States District Judge for the Southern District of New York, Hector Gonzalez, to be United States District Judge for the Eastern District of New York, Fred W. Slaughter, to be United States District Judge for the Central District of California, Andrew Fois, of the District of Columbia, to be Chairman of the Administrative Conference of the United States, and Marisa T. Darden, to be United States Attorney for the Northern District of Ohio, Delia L. Smith, to be United States Attorney for the District of the Virgin Islands, Eddie M. Frizell, to be United States Marshal for the District of Minnesota, and LaDon A. Reynolds, to be United States Marshal for the Northern District of Illinois, all of the Department of Justice, 9 a.m., SH-216.

Special Committee on Aging: to hold hearings to examine improving care experiences for people with both Medicare and Medicaid, 9:30 a.m., SD-562.

House

No hearings are scheduled.

Next Meeting of the SENATE

10 a.m., Thursday, February 10

Next Meeting of the HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

11 a.m., Friday, February 11

Senate Chamber

Program for Thursday: Senate will begin consideration of H.R. 4445, Ending Forced Arbitration of Sexual Assault and Sexual Harassment Act, and vote on passage of the bill at 11 a.m.

Following disposition of H.R. 4445, Senate will resume consideration of the nomination of Max Vekich, of Washington, to be a Federal Maritime Commissioner and vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the nomination at 11:45 a.m. If cloture is invoked on the nomination, Senate will vote on confirmation thereon at 1:45 p.m.

House Chamber

Program for Friday: House will meet in Pro Forma session at 11 a.m.

Extensions of Remarks, as inserted in this issue

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